

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.R. 627, Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights Act.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S5565–S5647*

**Measures Introduced:** Fourteen bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1067–1080, S. Res. 152–154, and S. Con. Res. 23. **Pages S5614–15**

#### Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled "Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals From the Concurrent Resolution, Fiscal Year 2009". (S. Rept. No. 111–22)

H.R. 35, to amend chapter 22 of title 44, United States Code, popularly known as the Presidential Records Act, to establish procedures for the consideration of claims of constitutionally based privilege against disclosure of Presidential records, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 111–21) **Page S5614**

#### Measures Passed:

**Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights Act:** By 90 yeas to 5 nays (Vote No. 194), Senate passed H.R. 627, to amend the Truth in Lending Act to establish fair and transparent practices relating to the extension of credit under an open end consumer credit plan, as amended, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S5570–81**

Adopted:

Dodd Amendment No. 1130 (to Amendment No. 1058), of a perfecting nature. **Page S5570**

Dodd/Shelby Amendment No. 1058, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S5570**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 92 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. 193), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on Dodd/Shelby Amendment No. 1058. **Page S5570**

Chair sustained a point of order that the following amendments were not germane post-cloture, and the amendments thus fell:

Landrieu Modified Amendment No. 1079 (to Amendment No. 1058), to end abuse, promote disclosure, and provide protections to small businesses that rely on credit cards. **Page S5570**

Collins/Lieberman Modified Amendment No. 1107 (to Amendment No. 1058), to address stored value devices and cards. **Page S5570**

Lincoln Amendment No. 1126 (to Amendment No. 1107), to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act with respect to the extension of certain limitations. **Page S5570**

**Helping Families Save Their Homes Act:** Senate passed S. 896, to prevent mortgage foreclosures and enhance mortgage credit availability. **Page S5588–89**

**Special Reserve Funding:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 152, to amend S. Res. 73 to increase funding for the Special Reserve. **Pages S5581–82**

**Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission Act:** Senate passed H.R. 131, to establish the Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S5645**

**Importance of Public Diplomacy:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 49, to express the sense of the Senate regarding the importance of public diplomacy. **Page S5645**

**M.S. St. Louis 70th Anniversary:** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 111, recognizing June 6, 2009, as the 70th anniversary of the tragic date when the M.S. St. Louis, a ship carrying Jewish refugees from Nazi Germany, returned to Europe after its passengers were refused admittance to the United States, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S5646**

**National Small Business Week:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 154, honoring the entrepreneurial spirit of small business concerns in the United States during National Small Business Week, beginning May 17, 2009. **Pages S5646–47**

**Measures Considered:**

**Supplemental Appropriations Act:** Senate began consideration of H.R. 2346, making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S5589–S5607**

**Adopted:**

Inouye/Cochran Amendment No. 1131, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S5591**

Inouye Amendment No. 1137, of a perfecting nature. **Pages S5595–98, S5607**

**Pending:**

Inouye/Inhofe Amendment No. 1133, to prohibit funding to transfer, release, or incarcerate detainees detained at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to or within the United States. **Pages S5591–95**

McConnell Amendment No. 1136, to limit the release of detainees at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, pending a report on the prisoner population at the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay. **Page S5595**

Cornyn Amendment No. 1139, to express the sense of the Senate that the interrogators, attorneys, and lawmakers who tried in good faith to protect the United States and abide by the law should not be prosecuted or otherwise sanctioned. **Pages S5598–S5602**

Brownback Amendment No. 1140, to express the sense of the Senate on consultation with State and local governments in the transfer to the United States of detainees at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. **Pages S5602–07**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the bill and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Thursday, May 21, 2009. **Page S5607**

A unanimous-consent time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, May 20, 2009, and that there be two hours of debate relative to Inouye Amendment No. 1133 (listed above), equally divided and controlled between the two Leaders, or their designees; with the time allocated as follows: the first 30 minutes under the control of the Republican Leader, the second 30 minutes under the control of the Majority Leader; and that the final 60 minutes be divided equally, with 10 minute limitations, with the final 5 minutes of time under the control of Senator Inouye; provided that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote on or in relation to Inouye Amendment No. 1133, with no amendment in order to the amendment; provided further, that all first-degree amendments be filed at the desk by 1:00 p.m., on Wednesday, May 21, 2009. **Page S5607**

**House Messages:**

**Helping Families Save Their Homes Act:** Senate concurred in the amendment of the House of Representatives to S. 896, to prevent mortgage foreclosures and enhance mortgage credit availability. **Page S5581**

**Signing Authority—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that on Tuesday, May 19, 2009, the Majority Leader, be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions. **Page S5565**

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 88 yeas to 6 nays (Vote No. Ex. 195), Gary Gensler, of Maryland, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for a term expiring April 13, 2012.

Gary Gensler, of Maryland, to be Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

Kristina M. Johnson, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of Energy.

Steven Elliot Koonin, of California, to be Under Secretary for Science, Department of Energy.

Scott Blake Harris, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Energy.

Larry J. Echo Hawk, of Utah, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior. **Pages S5582–88, S5647**

**Nomination Received:** Senate received the following nomination:

Philip L. Verveer, of the District of Columbia, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for International Communications and Information Policy in the Bureau of Economic, Energy, and Business Affairs and U.S. Coordinator for International Communications and Information Policy. **Page S5647**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S5613**

**Enrolled Bills Presented:** **Pages S5613–14**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Page S5614**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S5615–16**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S5616–25**

**Additional Statements:** **Page S5610**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S5625–44**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Pages S5644–45**

**Privileges of the Floor:** **Page S5645**

**Record Votes:** Three record votes were taken today. (Total—195) **Pages S5570, S5573, S5582**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:33 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 20, 2009. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5647.)

## *Committee Meetings*

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

### **FUNDING AND OVERSIGHT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development concluded a hearing to examine funding and oversight of the Department of Energy, after receiving testimony from Steven Chu, Secretary of Energy.

### **APPROPRIATIONS: MILITARY CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for the Department of Defense and the Department of the Navy military construction programs, after receiving testimony from B.J. Penn, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Major General Eugene G. Payne, Jr., Assistant Deputy Commandant for Installation and Logistics, and Rear Admiral Mark A. Handley, Deputy Commander, Navy Installations Command, all of the Department of the Navy, and Robert F. Hale, Under Secretary, Comptroller, and Wayne Army, Deputy Under Secretary for Installations and Environment, all of the Department of Defense.

### **BUDGET: DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION**

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Department of the Army proposed defense authorization request for fiscal year 2010 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Pete Geren, Secretary of the Army, and General George W. Casey Jr., USA, Chief of Staff of the Army, both of the Department of Defense.

### **BUSINESS MEETING**

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee ordered favorably reported 2,425 nominations in the Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

### **NOMINATIONS**

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of J. Randolph Babbitt, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, and John D. Porcari, of Maryland, to be

Deputy Secretary, who was introduced by Senators Mikulski and Cardin, both of the Department of Transportation, Rebecca M. Blank, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, and Lawrence E. Strickling, of Illinois, to be Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information, both of the Department of Commerce, and Aneesh Chopra, of Virginia, to be Chief Technology Officer, Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

### **BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES AND CLIMATE POLICY**

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine business opportunities and climate policy, after receiving testimony from Chad Holliday, E.I. DuPont de Nemours and Company, Inc., Wilmington, Delaware; Mark W. Stiles, Trinity Industries Inc., Dallas, Texas; Cynthia J. Warner, Sapphire Energy, San Diego, California; Tim Healey, Lange-Stegmann Company, St. Louis, Missouri; Richard Lowenthal, Coulomb Technologies, Campbell, California; Wayne F. Krouse, Hydro Green Energy, LLC, Houston, Texas; Richard W. Taylor, ImbuTec Inc., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and Jack Armstrong, BASF Corporation, Florham Park, New Jersey.

### **BUSINESS MEETING**

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Philip J. Crowley, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, and Jeffrey D. Feltman, of Ohio, to be Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs, both of the Department of State, and Daniel Benjamin, of the District of Columbia, to be Coordinator for Counterterrorism, with the rank and status of Ambassador at Large.

### **GREEN GLOBAL ECONOMIC RECOVERY**

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine pathways to a green global economic recovery, after receiving testimony from Nicholas Stern, London School of Economics and Political Science, London, United Kingdom; and James E. Rogers, Duke Energy, Charlotte, North Carolina.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH CHALLENGES IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia concluded a hearing to examine public health challenges in our nation's capital, after